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The World-Wide Sunday School Field

A NEWS-LETTER TO THE FRIENDS OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

FEBRUARY, 1915

World's Sunday School Association

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NEW YORK CITY

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
216 METROPOLITAN TOWER,
1 MADISON AVE., NEW YORK CITY

A MILLION nickels
From a MILLION scholars
For a MILLION Testaments
For a MILLION soldiers

Since the outbreak of the war many urgent calls have been coming to us from individual Christian workers and Bible Societies in Europe for assistance in the work of distributing the Scriptures among the soldiers in the camps, hospitals, war-prisons and battlefields. At the last meeting of the Executive Committee of the World's Sunday School Association Dr. George W. Bailey proposed as a response to these calls the plan which is briefly set forth in the slogan above. An appeal was sent out through the press and the Sunday School agencies, and as a result Sunday School scholars in all parts of the country have been responding heartily to the call. It is still "a long, long way to" a million, however, and we urge our friends to co-operate with us (1) by seeing that the appeal is adequately presented to the scholars of their schools; and (2) by sending to Mr. Arthur M. Harris, Treasurer, World's Sunday School Association, 216 Metropolitan Tower, New York City, contributions to help defray postage and similar expenses of the movement, so that every penny of the money secured from the children's nickels may go toward the Testaments.

To each scholar who gives a nickel we will present a souvenir book-mark receipt, on which is printed the request, "Place this book-mark in your Bible, and remember in your prayers him to whom your Testament is given *God knows his name.*"

Exhibit at the Panama-Pacific Exposition

Through the efforts of Mr. Harry Morton, of the Executive Committee, and the courtesy of the Japanese Commissioners, we have secured free of cost a booth in the Japanese Building in which to advertise the World's

Convention at Tokyo in 1916. The Japanese Exhibit, it is said, will be one of the most interesting and picturesque features of the Fair, and the Association is fortunate in having a "Tokyo Booth" in such favorable surroundings.

CHINA

Mr. Tewksbury's Class in Expression Work

Training Leaders in North China

The Peitaiho Training School for Sunday School District Workers, held during the past summer, accomplished results that must prove of far-reaching good. A high standard of efficiency was set up at the very beginning, and the most thorough-going work in teacher-training was done. Besides classes for instruction in the theoretical side of religious education, there were three classes of twelve boys each for "practice work" and child study. One of them is shown in the accompanying illustration. The Peitaiho School has equipped ten Sunday School specialists who will be employed by the mission districts. This large reinforcement to the missionaries from this company of trained workers should give great impetus to the Sunday School work of the missions in North China.

JAPAN

Summer Schools and Institutes

The Rev. K. Mito, of the Japan National Sunday School Association, writes from Mikage, Settsu, Japan, of the successful summer institute held in Khushu for four weeks in the mid-summer season of 1914. The attendance at the institute was from 40 to 100. A Summer School for boys was also carried out with good success. Some of the boys have applied for baptism since their return to their homes. The success of this experiment among the boys has encouraged the Japanese workers to attempt also a similar work for girls next year.

Teachers Institutes were held by Mr. Mito in Shidzuoka, Hiroshima, Fukuoka, and Korea.

This winter there was held in the Ginza Church, Tokyo, an institute in which 260 officers and teachers were enrolled for courses which extended over eight weeks. Sixty-two teachers received certificates, on meeting the standard requirements at the conclusion of the institute.

THE PHILIPPINES

New Sunday-School Literature

Rev. Jesse L. McLaughlin, Sunday School Secretary of the Philippines, reports that he is now preparing a series of organization leaflets on "The Formation of the School," "The Making of a Superintendent," "The Making of a Secretary," "The Making of a Teacher," "Training the Teacher," "The Ideal Scholar," and kindred subjects. The multiplicity of dialects makes it necessary to publish these leaflets in many languages, for while the English is being taught it is still impossible to do "real heart teaching" in any language other than the baby tongue of the people. In many schools, some of them very good schools too, almost none of the teachers or pupils can use any English at all.

The New Slogan

The Protestant Missions of the Philippines claim 75,000 members in their churches and only 30,000 in their Sunday Schools. The Sunday School Union has announced as its slogan, "A Sunday School membership equal to the church membership by October, 1916" (Date of Tokyo Convention). If one may judge simply from the figures given above, the Union has undertaken a gigantic task. The first impulse and "hurrah" of evangelistic meetings in the Islands is passed, and from now on the churches are to spring from Sunday Schools rather than from preaching alone. A Sunday School spirit, under Mr. McLaughlin's able leadership is rapidly coming into existence.

Provincial Organizations

It is very difficult in the Philippines to hold a national convention on account of the well-known racial and linguistic differences and the impossibility of holding meetings in a common language. For this reason and because of the great distance between the Sunday School Union center at Manila and the individual schools, Provincial Conferences are being promoted, looking toward the organization of a Provincial Association in each province, something like the plan of county organizations in the States. There will be sixteen or eighteen of these associations when organization is completed, and it will then be possible to bring the local Sunday Schools into much closer touch with helpful Sunday School specialization agencies.

Extension Work in the Philippines

From a missionary in Zamboanga, Mindanao, word comes that a Sunday School has been organized on the Island of Basilan, where the attendants are Moros and Filipinos. A Moro half-breed in Zamboanga is to be sent out upon his graduation from the Training School to his own home, 200 miles away, to open a Sunday School. A Mandarin has sent repeated requests for a worker to come and open a school for his people.

SOUTH AMERICA

The Sunday-School Tour

Mr. Frank L. Brown, Joint General Secretary of the World's Sunday School Association, in company with Mr. and Mrs. Harry Morton, of Oakland, Cal., and their son, Harold, sailed from New York, January 21, on the "Kroonland" for a three months' tour of South America in the interests of organized Sunday School work of the various missions in the southern continent. Conferences will be held in all the principal port cities, preparatory to the work of the new Sunday School Secretary for South America, the Rev. George P. Howard, of Montevideo. Mr. Howard will meet the party in South America and return with it to the United States for six months' special Sunday School training. Among the cities visited will be Havana, Kingston, Colon, Panama City, Callao, Lima, LaPaz, Valparaiso, Santiago, Buenos Aires, Montevideo, Rio de Janeiro, Bahia, Pernambuco, Para, Port of Spain, and San Juan.

The annual convention of the Brazil National Sunday School Association will be held in Rio de Janeiro while the Tour Party is there.

New Jersey Behind a Continent

The New Jersey State Sunday School Association has assumed the task of securing from New Jersey Sunday Schools the financial support of Rev. Geo. P. Howard, Sunday School Secretary for South America. Plainfield, Montclair, Trenton, and Bridgeton have already responded generously, and New Jersey has the honor of being the first state to attempt anything of the kind. In a sense Mr. Howard will be New Jersey's Sunday School missionary in South America.

The budget required is about $1,000 annually, which includes, besides the customary missionary salary, rent, native assistant, literature and traveling expenses. The plans for his work are made with the approval of the Latin-America Committee of the Mission Boards, of which Mr. Robert E. Speer is Chair-

man; and on the field the new Sunday School Secretary will work under the direction of a strong committee of which Bishop Homer C. Stuntz is Chairman, representing the various missions at work in South America.

MOSLEM LANDS

Christian Literature for Moslems

Bishop J. C. Hartzell, Chairman of the World's Sunday School Association's Committee on Moslem Work, has reported from North Africa, that the work of providing Christian literature for the Moslem children is making good progress. The following are ready for publication: an Arabic hymn book, with fifty or sixty good hymns selected for their value in developing Christian life and character; a simple catechism, already being taught from manuscript; Notes on the Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments and the Apostles' Creed; some bi-lingual tracts in French and Arabic, for use in the French colonies; a catechism for immediate use among the Kabyles; and four tracts, containing stories which have proved to be very effective among the children. Concerning these last-mentioned tracts, Bishop Hartzell remarks, "They are sure to be learned by heart, and will be recited far beyond the points of regular missionary visitation. It is in the line of the old Arab method of education. Our Sunday School scholars and those in the week-day classes have learned by heart the story of the creation and the promised redemption and chant it after the manner of the traveling Arab minstrels."

Christmas Greetings from Egypt

Rev. S. Van R. Trowbridge has arrived on his field of service in Egypt. A cablegram of "Christmas Greetings" was received from him at the office of the World's Sunday School Association, dated Alexandria, December 23, 1914. A letter dated December 26 tells of his safe arrival in Cairo and of his first impressions of Egypt in war time.

The late Dr. Frederick Roesch and a Training Class of Native Kabyle Boys, Algiers

This picture has especial interest at the present time, in view of the ever-present question as to the effect of the war on Foreign Missions. Dr. Roesch was a lieutenant in the German army, and fell in the field of battle last September. A distinguished Orientalist, a Ph. D. of the University of Strassburg, formerly Curator of the Egyptian Museum in Berlin, since 1909 a faithful missionary of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Cairo—Lieutenant Roesch will be hard to replace.

The Kabyles, among whom Lieutenant Roesch was working, form the chief Berber tribe in Algeria. They number about three quarters of a million, centering in the Algerian Atlas Mountains. They have no literature of their own, and the plan of the World's Sunday School Association is to create one for them which shall be saturated with the truths and spirit of Christianity.